

GWS

Gender and Women's Studies

GWS 200 SEX AND POWER. (3)

Introduces Gender and Women's Studies from a social science perspective using cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approaches. Analyzes relations of power marked by gender and how these relate to other social distinctions and processes. Interactive learning format.

GWS 201 GENDER AND POPULAR CULTURE. (3)

This course examines the role of popular culture in the construction of gendered identities in contemporary society. We examine a wide range of popular cultural forms—including music, computer games, movies, and television—to illustrate how femininity and masculinity are produced, represented, and consumed.

GWS 250 SOCIAL MOVEMENTS. (3)

This course examines women's social movements across at least three different cultural/national world areas, including key theories that explain the origins, strategies, and success of women's social movements. In this course, we critically analyze case studies from different parts of the world to understand how social movements work on the ground and in specific cultural environments with unique historical trajectories, attending to ways in which social movements are shaped by, and do or do not result in changes to, structures of gender, race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality.

GWS 300 TOPICS IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Selected topics in women's studies with special attention to those of contemporary relevance. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under different subtitles. Prereq: GWS 200 or GWS 201 or permission of instructor.

GWS 301 CROSSROADS (Subtitle required). (3)

Specific topics will vary, but all courses taught under this title focus on the contributions, interplay, intersections, constructions, history, and confrontations that the social categories and lived experiences of gender, race and class produce in the United States. Examines opportunities for civic responsibility and social justice. May be repeated up to a maximum of 9 credit hours under different subtitles.

GWS 302 GENDER ACROSS THE WORLD (Subtitle required). (3)

Interdisciplinary, comparative and transnational examination of issues of gender focused around particular themes and locations. Thematic focus explicating gender which also illuminates questions of history and political economy in specific locations. Introduces students to research and a variety of analytical questions in the field, as well as the interaction between locales/people and structural processes. May be taken up to 9 credit hours under different subtitles.

GWS 340 HISTORY OF FEMINIST THOUGHT TO 1975. (3)

This course is designed to provide students with an historical overview of the cultural diversity, creative and theoretical expression, and defining moments in the development of feminist thought up to 1975. Texts will include works, such as that of Hypatia, Christine De Pizan, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, and Mary Astell, that pre-date the term "feminist" but that are pioneering statements in the struggle for gender equality. "Thought" will include political manifestos, poetry, and short stories, as well as classic works of feminist theory and cultural criticism.

GWS 350 INTRODUCTION TO FEMINIST THEORIZING. (3)

An interdisciplinary course that acquaints undergraduate students with the central issues and texts in contemporary feminist theories. It will examine what feminist and womanist theories are and the ways in which they analyze and explain the workings of our social world. The course will clarify basic concepts in feminist thought such as gender, difference, patriarchy, and post-colonialism and will provide students with tools to analyze these theories and explore contemporary applications. Prereq: GWS 200 or GWS 201.

GWS 360 LGBTQ HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES. (3)

Introduces changing perceptions of homosexuality over time, as well as the creation of LGBTQ identities and social movements; explores the meanings of same-sex love prior to the existence of current terminology, and how, when, and why such language developed; and examines the cultural context in which "homosexual" came to represent a person rather than a behavior in 19th century Euro-American culture and the concurrent medicalization of homosexuality and gender nonconformity.

GWS 395 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES. (1-3)

The purpose of this course is to give students the opportunity to engage in independent faculty-directed library or field research focused upon significant issues and problems confronting women in contemporary society. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prereq: GWS 200 or GWS 201 and written agreement of a Women's Studies Affiliated faculty member, who will direct the study.

GWS 399 INTERNSHIP IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES.

(1-6)

Provides field experiences in women's studies through work in education, industry, government, or community organizations. Offered on a pass/fail basis only. Maximum six credit hours per placement to maximum of twelve credit hours total. (Three hours can be counted toward the undergraduate Women's Studies minor requirements.) Prereq: GWS 200 or GWS 201 and declared minor in Women's Studies and consent of instructor.

GWS 400 DOING FEMINIST RESEARCH.

(3)

In this course, we focus primarily on different kinds of qualitative research. Students will become familiar with a variety of methods used by Gender and Women's Studies scholars, and reflect on the problems involved in gathering information. But primarily, students will BE the researcher: using all these methods to develop a variety of approaches to studying a Women's Studies topic of choice. Each week, class participants will discuss the practicalities of conducting particular kinds of research and evaluate the studies; and they will share research findings in a workshop format. Prereq: GWS Major or permission of instructor.

GWS 410 INTRODUCTION TO QUEER THEORY.

(3)

An introduction to theories of how people think about and enact genders and sexualities. Students will learn key scholarly concepts in order to differentiate between queer theory as an interdisciplinary approach to sexuality studies and disciplinary approaches to the study of sexuality, such as psychological, historical, anthropological, or sociological. We will apply critical theory to political debates, literary texts, and films in order to understand the contributions made by queer theory to the study of humanities, especially issues of human diversity and globalization. Prereq: GWS 201 or GWS 200.

GWS 430 GENDER, POWER AND VIOLENCE.

(3)

This course is organized around three selected but interrelated themes to help us examine the interconnections between gender, power, and violence in different cultural settings. We will examine state, institutional, and interpersonal violence and critically analyze the ways in which gender and power are articulated at each of these levels. In our discussions, we will pay special attention to the various forms (physical, psychological, economic, sexual, and symbolic) violence may take and analyze the causes and consequences of different articulations of gender, power, and violence.

GWS 506 HISTORY OF SEXUALITY IN THE U.S.

(3)

An overview of the history of beliefs about sexuality, sexual cultures and norms, and sexuality's relationship to power in American society from the colonial period to the present.

GWS 595 ISSUES IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES (Subtitle required).

(3)

Discussion, readings, and papers focusing on relevant topics in Women's Studies directed by a faculty member with expertise in the topic under study. Courses will be interdisciplinary, although they will also include materials from particular relevant disciplines. May be repeated under different subtitles to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: GWS 200 or GWS 201 or permission of instructor.

GWS 599 SENIOR SEMINAR (Subtitle required).

(3)

This course provides a space for students to synthesize what they have learned about the methods and theories of GWS in a few different ways. Students will reflect on the ways in which one puts together an argument and writes as an interdisciplinary scholar on gender or women. Students will do this by writing a senior thesis and editing the theses of other students, and reading and discussing some materials which deal with research and writing in GWS. Prereq: Must be a declared major or minor in junior or senior year, or have written permission of the Chair in an exceptional circumstance.

GWS 600 TOPICS IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES (Subtitle required).

(3)

Selected topics of theoretical or substantive interest in women's studies with special attention to topics of contemporary relevance. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different subtitle. Prereq: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

GWS 610 WOMEN AND "MADNESS".

(3)

This course explores the social construction of mental illness as it pertains to gender. We will consult narratives from different disciplines: Literature, Psychology, Cultural Studies, Anthropology, History and Feminist Theory. Our focus will concern the ways in which all women are constructed as "sick" as well as the perspectives of women who feel a sense of psychic dislocation and disability in their lives. Readings by women of color and lesbians will suggest the particular ways culture defines such women as "abnormal."

GWS

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GWS 616 COLONIALISM/POST-COLONIALISM AND GENDER. (3)

This course is designed to expose students to a range of theories and debates centering on or pertinent to women, gender, and sexuality in the field of postcolonial studies. Here, the field is understood in its widest and most interdisciplinary sense, inclusive of studies of Empire, the independent so-called "Third World", and diasporas. Topics for study will include classical texts in the field, current postcolonial readings on gender and sexuality in empire, representation, trans/nationalism, and diasporas. Course credit may be used to help satisfy the international component of the Women's Studies Graduate Certificate requirements.

GWS 620 COMPARATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY. (3)

This course is designed to give students an understanding of an array of diversely situated theories and debates about gender and sexuality mainly outside of mainstream U.S. culture. Countries/communities of focus will vary.

GWS 630 SEMINAR IN FEMINIST RESEARCH METHODS. (3)

This course presents a variety of research methods used by Gender and Women's Studies scholars. The course examines how research has been conducted in a range of fields within Gender and Women's Studies, presents basic skills, commonly used methods, ethical issues, and social applications.

GWS 640 HISTORY OF FEMINIST THOUGHT AND ACTION (Subtitle required). (3)

Course provides a historically organized, thematically focused examination of pioneering works of feminist argument and analysis, creative writing, art, memoir, and politics. Theme and time-period vary according to instructor, but time-span covers at least fifty years and content includes at least two national, ethnic, or geographical contexts. May be taken up to six credit hours under different subtitles.

GWS 650 FEMINIST THEORY. (3)

An interdisciplinary course addressing issues in contemporary feminist theory (such as intersections of race and gender, the body, ideology and representation, sexuality, etc.).

GWS 675 ADVANCED FEMINIST THEORY. (3)

An advanced topics course in feminist theory. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

GWS 690 GRADUATE RESEARCH IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES. (3)

The purpose of this course is to provide graduate students the opportunity to engage in independent faculty-directed research in Women's Studies. Prereq: Written agreement of a Women's Studies Affiliated Faculty Member, who will direct the study.

GWS 700 TOPICAL SEMINAR IN GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Intensive work in particular topics in Gender and Women's Studies. May be repeated four times with different subtitles. Prereq: Graduate standing in GWS, or consent of instructor.

GWS 710 LATIN AMERICAN AND U.S. LATINA WOMEN'S LIVES. (3)

This course employs an interdisciplinary perspective to critically examine the various identities and spaces created by, and imposed on, women in Latin America and Latinas in the U.S. We explore connections and divergences within and between these two groups of women, but begin by examining how the legacies of conquest in Latin America and the U.S. have shaped women's experiences in the past. This background will also help us understand how women's experiences have differed given the specific contexts in which their lives unravel.

GWS 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

GWS 767 DISSERTATION RESIDENCY CREDIT. (2)

Residency credit for dissertation research after the qualifying examination. Students may register for this course in the semester of the qualifying examination. A minimum of two semesters are required as well as continuous enrollment (Fall and Spring) until the dissertation is completed and defended. Prereq: Successful completion of the qualifying examination.

GWS 775 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACROSS CULTURES.

(3)

This course focuses on domestic violence cross-culturally and from an interdisciplinary perspective. We discuss theories of domestic violence and how research and popular representations influence ideas regarding this phenomenon. We draw on specific experiences of intimate partner violence in different parts of Latin America, North America, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Topics include the impact of migration on women's experiences of violence, state responses and law enforcement, women's use of violence, the role of in-laws in women's experiences of violence, and women's resistance.